

BOARD OF REGENTS STATE OF IOWA

REGENT MERIT SYSTEM

Class Title: Arborist Trainee

Class Code: 5760

Standard Training Program: 2 years

Trainee Grade: 208

GENERAL CLASS DESCRIPTION:

Under direct supervision, receives work experience and related training instruction to develop the knowledge and skill necessary to perform at the journey level upon completion of the training program to position plants, transplants, and care for trees and shrubs applying knowledge of tree and shrub species. Participates in training that is required to progress to eligibility for the Arborist classification.

CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Learns how to perform and delegate duties in pruning, trimming, feeding, spraying, cabling, and the treatment of cavities.
2. Learns how to supervise and assist in tree removal; Inspects trees and shrubs for insect infestation and diseases; treats and controls or directs others to treat and control; Plants and transplants trees and shrubs; and supervises the operation of a small nursery.
3. Learns how to operate equipment such as end loaders, trucks, tree spades, cranes, etc; develop planting and maintenance care plans; respond to calls for emergency services including snow removal as required; and develop and maintain tree inventory records.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

1. Ability to follow oral and written instructions.
2. Ability to communicate effectively with staff, students, and the public.
3. Ability to learn all other knowledge, skills, and abilities listed in the Arborist class description.

The tasks listed under the heading of Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities are examples of the variety and general nature of duties performed by employees in positions allocated in the class. The list is descriptive only and should be used for no other purpose. It is not intended that any position include every duty listed nor is it intended that related duties cannot be required.

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MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Ability to read, write and follow instructions.

Upon completion of the training program, must be able to meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the Arborist classification as follows:

1. Three years experience in the care and maintenance of trees and shrubs.
2. Successful completion of commercial certification tests for application of pesticides and be eligible for certification, as required
3. Successful completion of Certified Arborist exam or equivalent training and be eligible for re-certification, as required.

REVISION EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2025

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